

JOHN N. WILEY.

JUNE 23, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GALLINGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

To accompany H. R. 9765.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9765) to increase the pension of John N. Wiley, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives is mainly devoted to a severe arraignment of the medical officers of the Pension Bureau for having rejected applications for increase in this case. This committee are of opinion that the medical officers of the Bureau are quite as likely to be right on the questions involved as a layman, and hence do not feel that the matter should be decided on the conclusions reached by the committee of the House. The truth is that the present physical condition of soldier may or may not be due to army service, as many men suffer from the same condition who never served in the Army.

Soldier is now receiving pension at the rate of \$17 per month, and the bill under consideration proposes to increase it to \$50 per month.

Your committee are of opinion that the equities in the case warrant an increase to \$30 per month, and accordingly recommend the passage of the bill after being amended as follows:

In line 3 insert after the word "and" the word "be," and in line 7 strike out the words "fifty dollars a month" and substitute the words "thirty dollars per month."

Also amend the title of the bill so as to read: "A bill granting an increase of pension to John N. Wiley."